

TRIBUTE TO ROBIN TORELLO

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Robin Torello, a resident of San Leandro, California. Ms. Torello has been selected as the 2009 Woman of the Year for the 10th Senatorial District, represented by California State Senator Ellen Corbett.

Since 1987, in conjunction with Women's History Month, California Senators and Assembly Members invite one woman from their respective districts to the Capitol in Sacramento to be recognized as Woman of the Year in a formal ceremony on the floors of the Senate and Assembly. I am proud to share with my colleagues in the House of Representatives that Robin Torello was so chosen.

Robin Torello continues to serve as a role model for women in her community and generations to come. She has distinguished herself professionally in the area of employee benefits. She has vast knowledge and experience in this area and currently serves as a Senior Associate Consultant in the San Francisco office of Mercer. Ms. Torello identifies client-employee benefit program needs and works with clients for appropriate solutions. Ms. Torello utilizes her exemplary skills, expertise and experience in such specific areas as plan design development and implementation, renewal negotiations, financial analysis, legislative compliance, project management, and strategic planning.

In addition to her professional responsibilities, Ms. Torello is active in the community and serves as an executive board member and chair of several organizations. She has given much of her time and effort in fostering participation in the political process, engaging the public on important issues, developing candidate recruitment and training programs, and increasing voter education.

Ms. Torello earned a Bachelor of Science degree in history and political science from Central Connecticut State College in 1974 and received a Master of Public Administration degree from California State University, Hayward in 1986. She also holds a life agent license issued by the California Department of Insurance.

I am pleased to recognize the achievements of Robin Torello as she receives the California Woman of the Year award. I join California State Senator Ellen Corbett in commending Ms. Torello on her outstanding record of professional and civic leadership.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the record that I intended to vote "nay" on rollcall vote 140 to H.R. 1388 taken on March 18, 2009. The CONGRESSIONAL RECORD currently lists me as an "aye" vote on this measure. As a conservative, I cannot support the federal government paying individuals

to volunteer their time, especially in a period of record federal deficits and budget constraints facing American families.

CLAIRTON BEARS WPIAL CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Clairton Bears on a stellar high school football season.

For the first time in their school's history, the Bears reached the State championship game. This accomplishment topped an undefeated regular season and a WPIAL title.

These great accomplishments were the result of fantastic coaching and consistently outstanding performances by the team's staff and players.

The staff consisted of head coach Tom Nola and assistant coaches Mike LeDonne, Demonje Rosser, Remondo Williams, Tim Borkowski, John DeMarco, Tony St. Angelo, Tony Ferrare, and Wayne Wade.

The players consisted of 9 seniors—Malcolm Ford, Troy Webb, Andrew Currington, CJ Hammonds, Kailon Lyons, Eyan Johnson, Lance Meade, David Spence, and Taylor Wright as well as underclassmen Kevin Weatherspoon, Deontae Howard, Josh Page, Brandon Small, Eddie Ball, Remondo Williams, Desimon Green, Trenton Coles, Julian McLean, Bishop Neal, Geron Johnson, Devante Dockery, Kevin Poindexter, Devante Gardlock, Marcus Nash, Antwon Thompson, Brian Boyd, Carvan Thompson, Donzel Daniels, Chanze James, Keith Craven, Devonte Doss, Marquis Norris, Shawn Thomas, Ezekial Williams, and Wesley Sutton. The hard work, dedication, and teamwork these young men displayed throughout the season produced a once in a lifetime opportunity for the graduating seniors to play in the big game before leaving their high school.

Pittsburgh once again has lived up to its name as the "City of Champions" producing a great team like the Clairton Bears. I wish the Bears and their program success in the seasons to follow and congratulate them once again on a fantastic season.

TRIBUTE TO THE BELL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM 2008–2009

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 2008–2009 Bell County High School Football Team, who captured the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Class 4–A State Championship Title. The tremendous athletes should be proud of their talent and ability, and know that I am honored to recognize their athletic achievement.

Bell County has a long history of great football teams. The Bobcats have defeated formi-

dable opponents in years pasts and gone on to win multiple championships, along with district and regional titles. This year's State Championship should come as no surprise given the drive and dedication in each of the team's players.

The Bell County Bobcats defeated a tough team from Bullitt East, winning 15–13 in the State final. More than six thousand fans filled the Cardinal Stadium to witness these focused young men put their athletic ability and knowledge of the game to the highest test. The Bobcats dominated the second half of the football game, scoring 15 unanswered points and stopping a two-point conversion attempt by the young men of Bullitt East with a mere ten seconds left.

This Championship Title reflects the wisdom of their coach, Dudley Hilton. Coach Hilton led the Bobcats to their first undefeated season with 15 straight wins and the team's second State Title. The team's unwavering determination was demonstrated in the last three games of this season's playoffs when each time they came back from behind to claim victory. These experiences and life lessons learned on the field will be carried on after the game and continue to shape these athletes into young men of promise and outstanding character.

It is my hope that this Championship will inspire not only young men on this team, but younger generations, to have the same determination when they face obstacles later in life. Commitment, courage and character was demonstrated by each and every one of these teammates and these qualities will bring continued success both on and off the field.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring coach Dudley Hilton and the Bell County High School 2008–2009 Football Team as the KHSAA Class 4A State Champions. Bell County's continued success has helped to shape the lives of so many students and members of the community, and I congratulate them and wish them all the best in the years to come.

INTRODUCING THE FAMILY LEAVE INSURANCE ACT OF 2009

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today with Representatives GEORGE MILLER, LYNN WOOLSEY, and CAROLYN MALONEY to introduce the Family Leave Insurance Act of 2009. This legislation will support our nation's working families by providing 12 weeks of paid leave for all workers to care for a sick family member, bond with a new child, deal with the military deployment of a family member, or recover from their own serious illness.

Sixteen years ago, Congress passed the landmark Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) to provide job-protected leave for new parents and individuals caring for ill family members. Since then, more than 100 million families have benefited from this law. While the FMLA has proved vitally important for many families, it remains incomplete because it requires only unpaid leave and applies only to companies with 50 or more employees—less than half the workforce.

Millions of men and women are not protected by the FMLA or simply cannot afford to